IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO EASTERN DIVISION

ROSE MARIE KEARSEY)
3080 West 105 th Street) Case No: 1:12-cv-2314
Cleveland, Ohio 44111,)
) JURY DEMAND REQUESTED
Plaintiff,)
v.	VERIFIED CIVIL COMPLAINT(Unlawful Debt Collection Practices)
JAVITCH, BLOCK & RATHBONE, LLC)
c/o Joel H. Rathbone)
1100 Superior Avenue, 19 th Floor)
Cleveland, Ohio 44114,	,)
)
Defendant.)
)

VERIFIED COMPLAINT

ROSE MARIE KEARSEY (Plaintiff), by her attorneys, KAHN AND ASSOCIATES, L.L.C., alleges the following against JAVITCH BLOCK & RATHBONE, LLC (Defendant):

INTRODUCTION

Plaintiff's Complaint is based on the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15
 U.S.C. 1692 et seq. (FDCPA).

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2. Jurisdiction of this court arises pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1692k(d), which states that such actions may be brought and heard before "any appropriate United States district court without regard to the amount in controversy," and 28 U.S.C. 1367 grants this court supplemental jurisdiction over the state claims contained therein.

- Because Defendant conducts business in Ohio, personal jurisdiction is established.
- 4. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 *U.S.C.* 1391(b)(2).

PARTIES

- 5. Plaintiff is a natural person who resides in Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio and is allegedly obligated to pay a debt, and Plaintiff is a "consumer" as that term is defined by 15 U.S.C. 1692a(3).
- 6. Pursuant to the definitions outlined in 15 U.S.C. 1692a(1-6), Defendant is a debt collector and sought to collect a consumer debt from Plaintiff which was allegedly due and owing from Plaintiff, and Plaintiff is a consumer debtor.
- 7. Defendant is a debt collector with an office in Cleveland, Ohio.
- 8. Defendant uses instrumentalities of interstate commerce or the mails in a business the principal purpose of which is the collection of any debts, and/or regularly collects or attempts to collect, directly or indirectly, debts owed or due or asserted to be owed or due another and is a "debt collector" as that term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).
- 9. Defendant is a collection agency that in the ordinary course of business, regularly, on behalf of itself or others, engages in debt collection.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

10. For several months prior to and including September, 2011, Defendant contacted Plaintiff via telephone at her number of (216) 941-8155, often calling multiple times daily, regarding alleged nonpayment of a consumer debt and seeking payment on that account.

- 11. Plaintiff during several calls advised Defendant that she was elderly, infirmed and on a permanently fixed income such that she would not be able to make full payment on the account. She did, however, make some offers to make nominal monthly payments, generally around \$10 per month, as her finances would allow.
- 12. Despite Plaintiff's notifications and offers, Defendant refused to accept the payments that Plaintiff thought she could afford and continued to call, even sometimes on the same day in which it has already spoken to Plaintiff about her inability to pay,
- 13. Defendant representatives further used harsh and abusive tone and language during personal contacts with Plaintiff such that she was driven to tears during the course of such conversations.
- 14. Defendant has lastly left messages on Plaintiff's answering machine about Plaintiff's alleged owed debt that could be and were heard by other people without Plaintiff's permission to do so. Defendant did not take lawful measures to protect Plaintiff's confidential information by avoiding potential 3rd party disclosure to others on its messages.
- 15. Defendant calls and contacts, and the nature of the contacts, after having been advised of Plaintiff's permanent financial limitations, were undertaken to annoy and harass Plaintiff for purposes of coercing payment on the alleged debt.

COUNT I DEFENDANT VIOLATED THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT

- 16. Defendant violated the FDCPA based on the following:
 - a. Defendant violated §1692d of the FDCPA by engaging in conduct the natural consequence of which is to harass, oppress, or abuse the Plaintiff

in connection with the collection of a debt.

- b. Defendant violated §1692d(5) of the FDCPA by causing a telephone to ring or engaging any person in telephone conversation repeatedly or continuously with intent to annoy, abuse, or harass any person at the called number.
- c. Defendant violated $\S1692e(2)(a)$ of the FDCPA by falsely representing the character, amount, or legal status of the debt.
- d. Defendant violated $\S1692d(2)$ by the use of obscene or profane language or language that the natural consequence of which is to abuse the hearer or reader.
- e. Defendant violated §1692(b) of the FDCPA by, without the prior consent of the consumer given directly to the debt collector, or the express permission of a court of competent jurisdiction, or as reasonably necessary to effectuate a postjudgment judicial remedy, communicating in connection with the collection of any debt, with any person other than the consumer, his attorney, a consumer reporting agency if otherwise permitted by law, the creditor, the attorney of the creditor, or the attorney of the debt collector.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, ROSE MARIE KEARSEY respectfully requests judgment be entered against Defendant, MONARCH RECOVERY MANAGEMENT INC. for the following:

- 17. Statutory damages of \$1000.00 pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. 1692k,
- 18. Costs and reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. 1692k
- 19. Any other relief that this Honorable Court deems appropriate.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff, ROSE MARIE KEARSEY, requests a jury trial in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

KAHN & ASSOCIATES, LLC

/s/ David W. Skall

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Attorney for Plaintiff

VERIFICATION OF COMPLAINT AND CERTIFICATION

STATE OF OHIO

Plaintiff, ROSE MARIE KEARSEY, states the following:

1. I am the Plaintiff in this civil proceeding.

- 2. I have read the above-entitled civil Complaint prepared by my attorneys and I believe that all of the facts contained in it are true, to the best of my knowledge, information and belief formed after reasonable inquiry.
- 3. I believe that this civil Complaint is well grounded in fact and warranted by existing law or by a good faith argument for the extension, modification or reversal of existing law.
- 4. I believe that this civil Complaint is not interposed for any improper purpose, such as to harass any Defendant(s), cause unnecessary delay to any Defendant(s), or create a needless increase in the cost of litigation to any Defendant(s), named in the Complaint.
- 5. I have filed this Complaint in good faith and solely for the purposes set forth in it.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746(2), I, ROSE MARIE KEARSEY, hereby declare (or certify, verify or state) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

1-29-12 Rose Marie Klarsey

Date ROSE MARIE KEARSEY

NOTE PROCESS AND TOTAL